

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 9021

By Lundberg

A RESOLUTION to honor the life and memory of Carl R. Moore of Bristol.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Carl R. Moore of Bristol, whose lifetime of distinguished public service improved the quality of life for every Tennessean. In his passing, Tennessee has lost one of her finest statesmen and a gentleman of courage and high character who was selflessly dedicated to Northeast Tennessee and this State; and

WHEREAS, born on February 26, 1930, in Appalachia, Virginia, Carl Moore was the son of Earl B. and Janet L. Moore and a graduate of Dobyns-Bennett High School and the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration; and

WHEREAS, he served his country well as a member of the United States Naval Reserve from 1947 to 1952, at which time he accepted commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army, serving until 1954 and being discharged at the rank of 1st Lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, a highly successful yet exceedingly humble businessman, Mr. Moore began his career with S.E. Massengill Company in Bristol in 1954, serving as personnel director until 1960 and on the board of directors and as vice chairman of the executive committee from 1960 to 1971; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Carl Moore contributed greatly to the betterment of his community; in addition to his part in many hotel and apartment ventures in Northeast Tennessee, he took great pride in the restoration of the Paramount Theatre for the Arts and the landmark Bristol Train Station Depot, and he and his daughter Dana were instrumental in the

passage of federal and State legislation designating Bristol as "The Birthplace of Country Music"; and

WHEREAS, a trusted leader among his peers, he served as chairman of the International Hot Rod Association, vice president and director of Citizens Fidelity Bank, and member of the board of directors of the Tennessee Performing Arts Foundation, to name but a few of his esteemed posts; and

WHEREAS, perhaps his most impactful and lasting contribution to his beloved Bristol is Bristol Motor Speedway, which broke ground in 1960 and held its first NASCAR race the following year; with inspiration and a sketch on a brown paper bag, Mr. Moore, along with two fellow businessmen, turned a former dairy farm into one of the most iconic facilities in NASCAR and the entirety of the American sports scene; and

WHEREAS, Carl Moore began his political career in 1964, when he was elected to represent the 1st District in the House of Representatives; he soon thereafter rose to become chair of the Local Government Committee, ultimately serving the people of Sullivan County as a member of the House during the 84th and 85th General Assemblies from 1965 to 1969; and

WHEREAS, his successful run for Senate in 1976 saw him serving the 2nd District during the 90th-95th General Assemblies from 1977 to 1989, holding the position of Senate Majority Leader during his final Assembly; from 1985 to 1986, during his time as a member of the National Conference of Legislatures, he served as chairman of the Arts, Tourism, and Cultural Resources Committee; and

WHEREAS, highly active in a multitude of civic and service organizations throughout the Tri-Cities, Carl Moore was an investor in the Tri-City Airport in Blountville, a charter member of the East Tennessee State University Foundation, vice president of Kingsport Health Care Center, member of the Bristol Housing Authority Commission, member of the board of directors

of the Upper East Tennessee Tourism Council, and chairman of the Bristol Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Moore was a dedicated member of the Lion's Club for more than six decades; he loved Alabama football, the Lunch Bunch, The Has Beens, Pal's milkshakes, and a cold beer, and he enjoyed his many friendships, especially the one he shared with Father Joe Dunagan; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Moore is survived by his beloved wife of thirty-five years, Elliott G. Moore; daughter Cynthia Moore Lotz and her son, Tyler; daughter Dana Moore and her husband, Jack Isenhour; and son, Randy Moore, and his children, Keaton and Adair; he is further survived by his dear canine companions, Poppy and Billy; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his oldest daughter, Janet Lynn; and

WHEREAS, Carl Moore leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a true beloved son of Tennessee who took great pride in making his community and State a better place for all, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the extraordinary life of Carl Moore; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Carl R. Moore of Bristol, reflecting fondly upon his resolute character, his years of admirable service to the people of Tennessee, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Moore.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.